


North-East Kent United Districts.



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE COMBINED DISTRICTS OF

NORTH - EAST KENT

FOR THE YEAR 1921,

BY

H. C. MENDES GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., &c.,

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

SITTINGBOURNE :

W. J. PARRETT, LTD., EAST KENT GAZETTE OFFICE, HIGH STREET.

1922.

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The North-East Kent United Districts Joint Committee.

1921.

Chairman—

HENRY PAYNE, Esq., J.P., C.A.

Vice-Chairman—

W. J. PENNEY, Esq., J.P.

Members—

QUEENBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL:

S. JOHNSON, J.P.
G. H. GILES.

SHEERNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

MRS. DURANT.
E. W. JACOBS.
W. J. PENNEY, J.P.
W. N. RULE, J.P., C.C.
A. SPEARS.

SITTINGBOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

E. F. HANDCOCK.
R. A. HADAWAY, J.P.
J. R. MILLEN, J.P.
H. PAYNE, J.P., C.A.

MILTON REGIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

F. DOWN.
W. R. ELGAR, J.P., C.C.
A. REYNOLDS.

MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL:

E. J. GOODHEW.
A. HINGE.
E. STEVENS.
H. TRIPLOW.
R. M. WAKELEY, C.C.
W. F. WOOD, J.P.

*Clerk—*E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Temporary Medical Officer of Health—

H. C. MENDS GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., etc.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1921.

THE NORTH EAST KENT UNITED DISTRICTS
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH JOINT COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

There has only been one large outbreak of Infectious Disease, which was an outbreak of Scarlet Fever, and occurred at Sheerness, commencing June, 1921, and continued till the end of the year. The number of cases notified in Sheerness during the whole of the year was 157, but I am pleased to be able to inform you not a single case ended fatally, which shows the efficient way the Isolation Hospital is being carried on. All praise is due to the Medical Superintendent and to the Matron and the competent staff, working under her supervision.

The Sanatorium has also done some very excellent work during the year.

As this is my last Report I take this opportunity of most cordially thanking all the Members of the old joint Board for the kindness and courtesy I have always received during the two years I have been connected with your large joint District. I hope, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have given you satisfaction. I can assure you I have used my best endeavours to combine efficiency with economy.

In my first two years I was compelled to leave many things undone, as I was instructed by the old Local Government Board to bear in mind that, until the War was over, I was only to enforce the doing away of defects in cases where I considered it absolutely necessary to the health of the population.

During the last two years I have endeavoured to remedy many defects, which I had allowed to stand over till Peace was declared. If it has appeared to you that I have been too zealous in my work I hope you will remember that I had a lot of outstanding matters that were more or less injurious to health, as well as those which must be always occurring in such a large district as the one which you have placed under my supervision.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON.

A COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS, ETC., OF 1921 WITH 1920.

District.	Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality.	Typhoid.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis all forms.	Indigenous Malaria.
Sheerness	{ 1921	20.5	10.5	67.7	2	11	156	27	0
	{ 1920	27.4	10.5	55.5	6	9	47	31	2
Queenborough ..	{ 1921	25.3	8.6	177.2	..	5	8	6	1
	{ 1920	29.2	9.1	88.2	1	14	8	4	9
Sittingbourne	{ 1921	25.9	11.4	73.7	2	20	15	20	..
	{ 1920	27.2	12.1	57.1	3	37	29	15	..
Milton Regis.....	{ 1921	23.2	10.4	57.1	..	15	38	11	..
	{ 1920	25.3	10.3	58.6	1	14	31	9	..
Milton Rural.....	{ 1921	20.8	10.02	48.1	1	81	24	18	..
	{ 1920	27.4	11.7	57.4	..	45	38	14	..

Imported Cases of Infectious Disease are not included.

TABLE XV.—BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1921.

(Provisional figures. Populations as enumerated in 1921 have been used for the purposes of this Table. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.				
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small pox	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes of Death.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales	22.4	12.1	0.02	0.00	0.06	0.03	0.12	0.12	0.23	0.44	15.5	83	25.5	92.5	6.4	1.1.
96 Great Towns, including London (1911 Census Populations exceeding 50,000)	23.3	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.04	0.13	0.15	0.23	0.40	19.3	87	33.2	92.5	6.8	0.7
148 Smaller Towns (1911 Census Populations 20,000 —50,000)	22.7	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.03	0.11	0.11	0.26	0.35	15.6	84	17.7	93.5	5.1	1.4
London	22.3	12.4	0.01	..	0.05	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.23	0.42	21.3	80	49.2	91.6	8.2	0.2

Kent County Constabulary,
Sittingbourne Division,
4th April, 1922.

Sir,—List of samples purchased within the Sittingbourne Division, showing the parishes in which purchased, during the year ended 31st December, 1921.

BAPCHILD.—Butter 1. Lard 1. Jam 1.
BOBBING.—Butter 1. Margarine 1. Jam 1.
BORDEN.—Milk 5. Margarine 2. Oatmeal 1.
BREDGAR.—Butter 2. Flour 1. Sugar 1. Margarine 1.
Mustard 1.
HALSTOW.—Butter 1. Coffee 1. Margarine 2. Jam 1.
Sugar 1.
IWADE.—Whisky 1. Rum 1.
MILTON REGIS.—Milk 28. Whisky 8. Brandy 2. Gin 2.
Butter 5. Margarine 2. Cream 1. Tincture of iodine
1. Tincture of quinine 1.
MINSTER.—Milk 1. Butter 1. Sugar 1. Lard 1. Margarine 1.
MURSTON.—Milk 1. Butter 1. Margarine 1.
NEWINGTON.—Butter 2. Lard 2. Coffee 1. Milk 1.
Margarine 2.
QUEENBOROUGH.—Milk 3. Whisky 4. Gin 2. Brandy 2.
RAINHAM.—Milk 4. Whisky 1. Gin 1. Butter 5. Jam 2.
Cream 2. Margarine 1. Citric acid 1.
SHEERNESS.—Milk 24. Butter 3. Margarine 3. Lard 2.
Sago 1. Cocoa 1. Jam 1. Ground ginger 1.
SITTINGBOURNE.—Milk 34. Butter 8. Cocoa 2. Mar-
garine 2. Cream 1. Coffee 3. Olive oil 1. Cod liver
oil 1. Lard 1. Sugar 2. Flour 1.
UPCHURCH.—Butter 1. Arrowroot 1. Rum 1. Gin 1.
Whisky 2.

Result of proceedings taken under the Sale of Food and
Drugs Act:—

MILTON REGIS.—Two cases of adulterated milk. First dis-
missed; second fined £7, and costs £5/5/0.
QUEENBOROUGH.—One case of adulterated milk. Fined
£1.
SITTINGBOURNE.—One case of adulterated milk. Fined
£2, and costs £2/2/0.

ERNEST ED. HOARE, Superintendent.

THE PAST.

Since writing my last Annual Report a great change has been made in the sub-division of the whole N.E. Kent District, by being divided into two, viz., one of which comprises Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural, and the other Sheerness and Queenborough.

I am sure you have secured a good and efficient officer in Dr. Hills, for the Sheerness and Queenborough urban portion, and I hope the other portion will be as fortunate.

As regards your combined District, the Child Welfare Centres are becoming far more efficient every year, and all praise is due to the Nurses who have so ably performed the work under the jurisdiction of the Medical Officers of these Centres. Infants are now carefully watched from birth up to school age, when they come under the supervision of the School Medical Officer.

THE FUTURE.

I hope, as time goes on, there will be more enthusiasm among the representatives of the different areas in your Combined Districts, and I trust before long to hear that Cottage Hospitals with Maternity and Ante-Natal Centres will soon be started, which are so urgently needed in Sheerness and Sittingbourne. As regards the Ante-Natal work, this might be commenced at once at a cost of only a few pounds per annum.

CHILD WELFARES.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE IN SITTINGBOURNE, MILTON REGIS, & MILTON RURAL DISTRICTS.

Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918, the three Councils of Sittingbourne Urban District, Milton Regis Urban District, and Milton Rural District, decided to form a joint Committee. It met for the first time in July, 1919, and consisted of the representatives of these Councils upon the Joint Hospital Board, together with certain ladies.

In June, 1919, another branch was established, situated in the parish of Murston. At the present time there is a main centre at Chalkwell, which meets twice a week; one at Rainham, once a fortnight; and one at Murston, once a fortnight. So the whole of the three districts, viz., Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural, are now well provided for. In addition, infant consultations are held every morning for special cases by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

I cannot speak too highly of the splendid work which has been done by Nurse Furminger and Nurse Taylor during the past year. I could never have brought these Centres to the state of efficiency which now exists, had it not been for the able way in which I was assisted by Nurse Furminger and subsequently by Nurse Taylor.

The Centres would have been able to do a great deal more good had it not been for the want of employment and excessive cost of living.

A Baby Show was held on July 23rd. The number of babies who competed for the prizes was 200. I have to thank all the ladies and gentlemen who helped to make it such a great success.

Visits paid by Health Visitor, 1,888.

Weekly attendance of mothers, 81.

Weekly attendance of children, 99.

THE SHEERNESS WELFARE keeps on growing, and I have been compelled through overcrowding to arrange for three instead of two meetings weekly. I take this opportunity to testify to the very excellent work done by Nurse Aylward, the Health Visitor, who by her skill and energy has been very largely responsible for the success of the Welfare. A Baby Week was successfully held during the month of July, and some very instructive lectures given to the mothers.

THE QUEENBOROUGH WELFARE. — This Welfare is also doing some useful work, and has been ably managed by Nurse Cooper, under the supervision of Dr. Madwar, the Medical Officer to the Welfare. Number of visits paid by Health Visitor, under 1 year, 468, 1-5 years, 1,296; average weekly attendance of mothers, 30; children, 35. A Baby Week was held the last week in June. Nurse Cooper, the Health Visitor, also acts as District Nurse for the Borough of Queenborough, and during the past year, she informs me, she has made 2,610 visits in that capacity.

KELCOL HILL ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND SANATORIUM.

This Institution, belonging to the districts of Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural, also receives the infectious cases from Sheerness and Queenborough by agreement.

The work done at this Hospital is shown by the following table.

The Tuberculosis cases are mainly those sent by the Kent County Council from all parts of the county, under an agreement by which this Hospital Board retains 40 beds for this purpose.

ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITALS.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Scarlet Fever	93	41	42	102	151	230
Diphtheria	172	114	67	86	169	129
Enteric	26	9	9	8	8	4
Tuberculosis	150	151	151	143	154	114
Encaphalitis Lethargica	9	1	2	2	Nil	2
Chicken Pox	Nil	Nil	4	4	Nil	1
	450	316	275	345	422	480

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of

Sittingbourne,

For the Year 1921.

Sittingbourne Urban District Council,

1921-22.

Chairman—J. R. MILLEN, Esq.*

Vice-Chairman—L. J. GOODHEW, Esq.

COUNCILLOR H. E. BERRY.*

„ M. EASTON.

„ F. FILMER.*

„ MRS. FRENCH.*

„ R. A. HADAWAY, J.P.

„ E. F. HANDCOCK.*

„ A. SPICE.

„ W. E. JARRETT.

„ MRS. JARRETT.*

„ H. PAYNE, J.P., C.A.*

Note.—Those marked * are Members of the Health Committee.

Clerk to the Council—G. H. POTTER.

Acting Surveyor—W. LEONARD GRANT.

Sanitary Inspector—PERCY SCHOFIELD up to August,
JOSEPH VARLEY to the end of the year.

Health Visitor—Nurse E. H. FURMINGER up to September,

Nurse TAYLOR to the end of the year.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1921.

TO THE SITTINGBOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1921.

The chief public needs of your Urban District are the general provision of flushing cisterns, which has been to a small extent carried out during the past year, but there are still many left which have to be done by hand. This system is most unsatisfactory, for the following reasons:—

- (1) The trap is very liable to become unsealed.
- (2) The seat is almost sure to be made very wet.
- (3) When children use the closet they are not able to lift the bucket of water.

HOUSING.—I do hope this will receive your attention during the current year.

As this is my last Annual Report, I take the opportunity to tender to your Council my sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy I have received during the time I have had the honour of acting as your temporary Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDS GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., etc.

AREA (acres).—1,004.

POPULATION (1921).—9,420. Number of inhabited houses, 2,192.

RATEABLE VALUE.—£38,665.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE.—£145.

BIRTHS.—Legitimate, 112 males, 129 females; illegitimate 3 males; total, 244. Rate, 25.9; 1920, 27.2.

DEATHS.—108. Rate, 11.4; 1920, 12.1.

NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF CHILDBIRTH.—Nil.

DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year of age, per 1,000 births.—73.7; 1920, 57.1. Legitimate, 16. Illegitimate, 2. Deaths from Measles.—Nil. Deaths from Whooping Cough.—Nil. Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).—1.

CAUSES OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1921.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Enteric Fever.. .. .	0	1	1
Diphtheria	0	1	1
Influenza	2	0	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	4	8
Other Tuberculosis.....	1	1	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	9	7	16
Diabetes	0	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	2	2	4
Heart Disease	7	11	18
Arterio-Sclerosis	0	1	1
Bronchitis.....	1	2	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	9	2	11
Diarrhœa (under 2 years).....	1	0	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	0	1	1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	0	1	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth.....	7	2	9
Deaths from Violence	2	0	2
Other Defined Diseases.....	15	11	26
Totals.....	60	48	108

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	Sex.	Age.	Causes of Death.
1	M	5 days.....	(1) Premature Birth
			(2) Icterus Neonatorum
2	M	14 days	(1) Acute Eczema
			(2) Marasmus
3	F	8 months ..	Septic Poisoning from sores all over body (supposed had Chicken-pox)
4	F	13 days	Prematurity
5	M	12 hours....	(1) Premature Birth
			(2) Congenital Debility
6	M	24 days	Broncho-Pneumonia
7	M	7 months ..	Broncho-Pneumonia
8	F	30 minutes..	Asphyxia Pallida of the new-born
9	F	10 months ..	Broncho-Pneumonia
10	F	8 months ..	Congenital Morbus Cordis
11	F	1 hour.....	Asphyxia Pallida
12	F	12 hours....	(1) Premature Birth
			(2) Congenital Debility
13	M	4 months ..	Epidemic Diarrhœa
14	M	1 minute ..	Asphyxia strangulation by umbilical cord due to inattention at birth
15	M	21 days	Congenital Debility
16	M	10 minutes..	(1) Asphyxia Pallida
			(2) Difficult Parturition
17	M	1 day	Debility
18	M	3 days.....	Debility

11 Males, 7 Females. Total 18.

3—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	20	20	1
Scarlet Fever	15	14	Nil
Typhoid Fever.....	2	2	1
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	6	..	11
Erysipelas	4	Nil	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis :—			
(a) Pulmonary	M 7	2 (Sanatorium)	4
,,	F 10	2 (Sanatorium)	4
	—		
	17		
(b) Non-Pulmonary	M 1	1	1
	F 2	1	1
	—		
	3		

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Im- paired.	Vision Unim- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.—Nothing out of the ordinary.

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria.....	1	3	-	-	-	12	3	1	-	-	-	20
S. Fever	-	-	1	-	-	11	3	-	-	-	-	15
Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	6
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	4
Total	1	4	1	-	-	23	7	5	2	2	2	47
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	10	3	-	1	17
Other ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3
Total	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	11	3	-	1	20

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.—Ten deaths. One not notified. Ratio, 1 to 10. This has been much improved during the past year. In previous years many of the cases had never been notified. The ages of the deaths were as follows:—13 years, 19, 19, 21, 31, 31, 32, 43, 45, 47.

DEATH FROM DIPHTHERIA.—One case, female, age 7 years.

DEATH FROM TYPHOID FEVER.—One case, female, age 54 years.

DEATHS FROM PNEUMONIA.—Five deaths, ages 13 months, 21 months, 3 years, 42 years, 52 years.

SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the home. A District Nurse provided by Sittingbourne and Milton Regis Nursing Association.

MIDWIVES.—In private practice.—1.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—Albany Street, Saturday, County Council.

DENTAL CLINIC.—Albany Street, Thursday, County Council.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE. — Chalkwell, Monday and Thursday, Local Authority.

EYE CLINIC.—Albany Street, Wednesday, County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.—Albany Street, Monday, County Council.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.—Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 46 beds (40 by the County Council). The Infectious Hospital, 102 beds, by the Local Authority. The Small-Pox Hospital, 20 beds, by the Local Authority. The Infectious Hospital and Small-Pox Hospital are maintained by the Joint Hospital Board formed from the Sittingbourne, Milton Regis, and Milton Rural Councils.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children.—Nil.

Ambulance facilities (a) for Infectious Cases, by the Local Authority; (b) for Non-Infectious and Accident Cases, by Local Authority.

LABORATORY WORK.—All done by the County Medical Officer of Health, at Sessions House, Maidstone.

LIST OF ADOPTED ACTS, BYE-LAWS, ETC.

ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL.

Public Libraries Acts, 1855-1892, first adopted 7th November, 1887.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, 16th December, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (except Parts 4 and 5), 16th December, 1890.

Private Streets Works Act, 1892, 30th May, 1893.

Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846-1882, 18th August, 1896.

Museums and Gymnasiums Act, 1891, 19th January, 1897.

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907 (parts), 25th October, 1912. Sections 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 27, 32, and 33, in Part II.; Sections 34 to 47, 50 and 51, in Part III.; Parts IV., V., and VI.

Notification of Births Act, 1907, 27th January, 1914.

DELEGATED POWERS.

Cinematograph Act, 1st April, 1911.

Theatres, 8th May, 1889.

Rats Act, 5th March, 1920.

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

Regulations of Meetings, etc., and Duties of Officers, 5th April, 1875.

New Streets and Buildings, Nuisances, 4th October, 1876.

Nuisances (Repeal of No. 49) and Amendment, 23rd October, 1888.

Common Lodging-Houses, 4th October, 1876.

Regulating Use of Pleasure Ground, 26th July, 1881, and 3rd March, 1896.

Water Supply, September, 1881.

Telegraph and other Wires, Prevention of Danger from Whirlgigs and Swings, and from the use of Fire Arms in Shooting Ranges and Galleries, 19th May, 1891.

Public Baths, 2nd March, 1897.

Fine for Non-acceptance of Office, 28th March, 1899.

Regulation of Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, 13th March, 1900.

Sewer Connections, 17th June, 1902.

Slaughter-houses, 30th October, 1906.

Regulation of Offensive Trade of Gut Scraper, 30th October, 1906.

Offensive Trades Order (P.H. A.A. Act, 1907), 5th November, 1912.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.—Certified Royal Sanitary Institute, Certified Meat Inspector.

HEALTH VISITOR.—Three years general training.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Sittingbourne is essentially an industrial district, chiefly dependent on the Paper Mills, Brickmaking, and Cement industries.

During the summer months a large number of the population are employed in the fruit and hop gardens of the surrounding rural districts, but since the outbreak of war, the acreage of the hop gardens has decreased.

The roads, both main and private, are in a satisfactory condition. The main roads are tar-sprayed. The estimated assessable value of the district is £38,665, and a rate of 1d. in the £ produces about £145 nett.

The General District Rate is approximately 3/6 in the £ for the half-year.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—The majority of the houses are already connected to the Council sewers, and the remaining houses are steadily being connected. I hope, now that the War is over, to see most of the existing cesspools abolished, and also that the W.C.'s will be fitted with a proper flushing apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY.—Satisfactory.

SCAVENGING.—Satisfactory sanitary dustbins are now provided, and collected twice weekly

I take this opportunity to mention how I appreciate the valuable work done by your Sanitary Inspector, who is highly competent and conscientious, and performs his duties with skill, efficiency, and tact.

SITTINGBOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1921.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1921.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

Systematic inspection of houses has been carried out during the year under the above Regulations. The following is a brief summary of the work carried out:—

Number of houses inspected and details recorded	650
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation...	0
Number of houses made fit for habitation without Closing Orders	405
Number of houses demolished (Demolition Orders served in 1920)	13
Other house inspections, details not being recorded...	118
Total number of houses where sanitary defects were found	364
Number of houses for which Intimation Notices were served	364
Number of houses for which Statutory Notices were served	26
Total number of nuisances abated	958
Number of re-inspections made	1063

Summary of nature and number of nuisances abated during the year:—

Damp houses remedied	41
Houses re-decorated	79
Houses cleansed by occupier	8
Roofs repaired	87
Eaves, down pipes, etc., repaired	51
Doors or windows repaired	73
Floors or plaster repaired	111
Grates or coppers repaired	48
Paving relaid or repaired	14
Drains repaired, etc.	53
New sinks provided	33
Water closets repaired	71
Sanitary dustbins provided	147
Urinals cleansed or repaired	35
Offensive accumulations removed	9
Other nuisances remedied	93

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Investigations have been made and the necessary disinfection carried out in connection with 15 cases of Scarlet Fever, 20 cases of Diphtheria, 2 cases of Typhoid Fever, and 17 cases of Tuberculosis.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEATSHOPS, ETC.

There are 6 slaughterhouses on the register, and these are kept in a satisfactory condition. In addition there are 12 meatshops, 12 fish shops, and 7 fried fish shops.

The following is a list of the various articles of food which have been condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year:—

Kind of Food.	Disease or Condition.	Weight in lbs.
BOVINE—		
Beef, fresh	Tuberculosis	1,056 lbs.
Organs and Offal	Tuberculosis	37 lbs.
Beef (imported)	Unsound	1,965 lbs.
PIGS—		
3 whole Carcasses—	Fevered	476 lbs.
2 heads	Tuberculosis	
SHEEP—		
1 whole carcass	Fevered	52 lbs.
MISCELLANEOUS—		
Corned Beef	Unsound	166 lbs.
Preserved Fruits.....	Unsound	22 lbs.
Tinned Fish	Unsound	5 lbs.
Tinned Milk	Unsound	25 lbs.
		Total 3,804 lbs.

I wish to record my appreciation of the way in which the butchers and salesmen have assisted me in this department of my work. To the general public this attitude should give every assurance.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, & MILESHOPS REGULATIONS.

There are 4 registered cowkeepers, 4 shops from which milk is sold, and 14 milk sellers in your district. Nine of the latter bring milk from and reside outside the district.

Thirty-six inspections have been carried out at the above premises.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 27 factories and 53 workshops and workplaces, including 7 bakehouses, on the register. Eight-one inspections have been made during the year, and with two exceptions were found satisfactory. The defects on the two premises were subsequently remedied.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There is only one common lodging-house in your district, and this is kept in a clean and satisfactory condition. Periodical inspections are made.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH VARLEY.

(Sanitary Inspector from Sept. 12th—Dec. 31st.)

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of

Milton Regis,

For the Year 1921.

Milton Regis Urban District Council,

1921.

Chairman—W. R. ELGAR, Esq., J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman—G. BOWES, Esq.

COUNCILLOR T. BUGGS.

„ F. DOWN.

„ J. FILMER.

„ P. J. JEFFERY.

„ H. S. KNOWLES.

„ MRS. MAUNDRELL.

„ W. J. PULLEN.

„ T. G. W. REED.

„ A. REYNOLDS.

„ A. E. WOOD.

Clerk to the Council—JOHN DIXON, Esq., M.A., Solicitor.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector—Mr. A. W. CALLAWAY.

Health Visitor—Nurse E. H. FURMINGER to Sept.

Nurse TAYLOR to end of year.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1921.

TO THE MILTON REGIS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1921.

As I said in my 1920 Report, I should like to see an alteration as regards the sanitary work, for it is impossible to have regular house-to-house inspections made every year, owing to your Sanitary Inspector having so much other work to attend to.

I think all praise is due to Mr. Callaway for the way he does attend to the health of your Urban District, and it shows what an amount of energy he possesses.

I do hope I shall hear one day that a fully-qualified Inspector has been appointed, provided with an Assistant, to run the whole of the new joint District in the same way as they are running the Child Welfares.

As this is my last Annual Report, I take the opportunity to tender to your Council my sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy I have received during the time I have had the honour of acting as your temporary Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., etc.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area.—(Acres) 2,558.

Population (1921).—7,540.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1921).—1,657.

Rateable value.—£29,676/10/6.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate.—£99.

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.—Legitimate, 81 males; 83 females; Illegitimate, 5 males and 6 females. Total, 175. Birth Rate (R.G.), 23.2. 1920, 25.3.

DEATHS.—79. Death Rate (R.G.), 10.4. 1920, 10.3.

NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF
 CHILDBIRTH.—From Sepsis, nil. From other causes, nil.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE PER 1,000
 BIRTHS.—57.1. 1920, 58.6. Legitimate, 10; illegitimate,
 nil; total, 10.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), nil; Whooping Cough,
 (all ages), nil; Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age), 2.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1921.

Diseases.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Influenza	0	4	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System..	3	4	7
Cancer, Malignant Disease	3	4	7
Diabetes	1	0	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	3	5	8
Heart Disease	2	7	9
Bronchitis	0	2	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1	4
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	1	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years).....	0	2	2
Appendicitis and Typhilitis.....	0	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	0	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	1	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	1	4	5
Suicide	0	1	1
Other Deaths from Violence	1	0	1
Other Defined Diseases.....	8	14	22
Totals.....	27	52	79

NINE DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF
 AGE DURING 1921.

Sex.	Age.	Certified Cause of Death.
F.	4 hours	Premature Birth
F.	1 month....	Infective Enteritis
F.	14 hours....	Premature Birth
F.	4 days.....	Congenital Debility
F.	5 months ..	Gastric Enteritis
M.	1 day	Congenital Heart Malformation
F.	15 minutes..	Prematurity and low Vitality
F.	1 hour.....	Delayed respiration
M.	10 days	Purpura and debility
M.	9 months ..	Lobar Pneumonia

7 Females, 3 Males. Total 10.

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	15	13	0
Scarlet Fever	38	35	Nil
Typhoid Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	5	2	4
Erysipelas	2	Nil	Nil
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gonorrhoeal Ophthalmia	1	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	Nil
Tuberculosis :—			
(a) Pulmonary	M 3	1 (Sanatorium)	3
,,	F 7	5 (Sanatorium)	4
	10		
(b) Non-Pulmonary	M 1	0	0
	F 0	0	0
	1		

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Unim- paired.	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home	In Hospital.				
1	1	Nil	1	Yes	No	No	Nil

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-	-	1	7	2	2	3	-	-	15
S. Fever.....	-	1	-	-	11	15	3	6	2	-	-	38
Pneumonia	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	5
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gonorrheal Ophthalmia ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Total	2	4	-	-	12	22	5	8	6	4	-	63
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	2	-	10
Other Tuberculosis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	2	-	11

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Seven—Two of them not notified; ratio 2 to 7. The ages of the Deaths were as follows:—7, 24, 25, 42, 46, 50, 59, and 60 years.

DEATHS FROM PNEUMONIA.

Four—9 months, 17 months, 16 years, and 72 years.

DEATHS FROM ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One—aged 2 years.

4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Nothing, except one case of Encaphalitis Lethargica notified, which is unusual in this District.

5.—SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—A District Nurse is engaged, and works under the direction of the Sittingbourne and Milton Nursing Association.

MIDWIVES.—Number of Midwives practising in the district.—Three.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—One School Clinic every Saturday morning. School Clinic for Dental Work every Thursday. School Clinic for Eye work every Wednesday. Child's Welfare twice a week. Tuberculosis attendance every Monday. Venereal Centre, every Friday.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.—Tuberculous—No. of beds, 46, (40 by the County Council). Fever Hospital, number of beds, 102, by the Local Authority. Small Pox Hospital, number of beds 20, by the Local Authority.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children.—None.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) For Infectious cases by the Local Authority. (b) For Non-Infectious and Accident cases by the Local Authority.

6.—LABORATORY WORK.

All done by the County Medical Officer, at Sessions House, Maidstone.

7.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Sanitary Inspector, M.Inst., M. & C.O.E., R.S.A.

Health Visitor, General Training, 3 years.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The Urban District of Milton Regis has an area of 2,558 acres, and consists of a large old, and small new part, divided by the main London to Dover road. To the north of the London road lies old Milton, with a great deal of old cottage property. To the south lies the new part, comprised of a better class of house property.

The chief industries are brick and cement making, also a large paper making mill. London refuse (used in brick-making) is dumped on brickfields close to the town.

ROADS.—There are five miles of main roads, and 18 miles 4 furlongs of other roads. Both main and bye-roads are in a satisfactory condition. Tar-painting is done on the main roads, and the chief of the bye-roads.

HOUSING.—No vacant houses fit for habitation. Eight new houses have been erected. This number, I hope, will be increased.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—There are three such premises registered in the district, and careful watching is necessary so as to keep them in a sanitary condition, and in conformance with the bye-laws. Bye-laws for houses let in lodgings are in force in the district.

WATER SUPPLY, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE, SCAVENGING.—Nothing to report.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1921.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

Number of Houses inspected and details recorded.	243
Number of sanitary defects found and notices served	109
Number of nuisances found and reported	81
Number of notices for the provision of sanitary dustbins	93

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Investigations have been made and the necessary disinfection carried out in connection with:—Diphtheria 15, Scarlet Fever 38, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 4, Malaria nil, Typhoid nil, and Sleeping Sickness 1.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT SHOPS.

There are three slaughterhouses on the register, and four meatshops, and these are kept in a satisfactory condition. The following was condemned as unfit for human consumption:—2qrs. 19lbs. of meat.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, & MILK SHOPS REGULATIONS.

At the present time there are ten persons registered under the above order, and they are divided as follows:—Registered cowkeepers 4, purveyors of milk 6. Two minor defects were found in regard to cowsheds; these were subsequently remedied.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There are 15 factories and 8 workshops on the register. Periodical inspections have been made, and sanitary improvements carried out where necessary.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are 4 houses in the district registered as common lodging-houses, and from inspections made the same have been kept in accordance with the bye-laws.

HOUSES - LET-IN-LODGINGS.

There is only one house in this district registered as a house-let-in-lodgings, and this has been kept in accordance with the bye-laws.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are in the district 1 rag and bone dealer, 1 tallow chandler, 1 fellmonger, and 2 fried fish shops, and from inspections made they were found to be kept in compliance with the bye-laws.

(Signed) A. W. CALLAWAY,

Inspector of Nuisances.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Rural District of Milton,

For the Year 1921.

Milton Rural District Council,

1921=22.

Chairman—W. F. WOOD, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman—H. TRIPLOW, Esq., J.P.

COUNCILLOR G. ANDREWS, J.P.

„ W. R. FARMER.
„ E. J. GOODHEW.
„ T. GOODHEW.
„ A. HINGE.
„ W. HOOKER.
„ W. T. LEWIS.
„ W. H. HOLDING.
„ E. STEVENS.
„ STANLEY STEVENS.
„ W. J. THOMAS.
„ R. M. WAKELEY, C.C.
„ S. T. WAKELEY.
„ LESLIE DOUBLEDAY.

Clerk to the Council—E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Surveyor—ERNEST C. PEARCY.

Sanitary Inspector and Food Inspector—

P. SCHOFIELD, up to August.

J. VARLEY, to the end of year.

Health Visitor—Nurse E. H. FURMINGER, up to September.

Nurse TAYLOR, to the end of year.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1921.

TO THE MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1921.

The chief public health needs of your district are (1) sewerage for Rainham Parish, which would allow (2) better cesspit emptying for the other parishes.

If this cannot be done storm water receptacles should be provided when necessary without delay. I am glad this has been done during the past year, in some cases, but there are many more requiring immediate attention. In nearly every case the cesspit is quite incapable of coping with the sewage and storm water combined.

A District Nurse is urgently required for the parish of Rainham.

As this is my last Annual Report, I take the opportunity to tender to your Council my sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy I have received during the time I have had the honour of acting as your temporary Medical Officer of Health.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDS GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., &c.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA (acres).—28,983.

POPULATION (1921).—13,960.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1921).—3,326 (approximately).

RATEABLE VALUE.—£90,426.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE.—£300 (about).

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.—Legitimate, 136 males, 141 females; illegitimate, 6 males, 8 females; total, 142 males, 149 females.

BIRTH RATE (Registrar-General).—20.8, 1920 27.4.

DEATHS.—65 males, 75 females; total, 140.

DEATH RATE (Registrar-General).—10.02, 1920 11.7.

NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF
CHILDBIRTH.—From Sepsis, 1; from other causes, 1.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE PER 1,000
BIRTHS.— 48.1. Legitimate, 41.2 per 1,000; illegitimate,
6.8; total, 48.1; 1920, 51.0.

DEATHS FROM MEASLES (all ages).—Nil.

DEATHS FROM WHOOPING COUGH (all ages).—1.

DEATHS FROM DIARRHŒA (under 2 years of age).—Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1921.

Disease.	Males	Females	Total
Whooping Cough.....	1	1	2
Influenza	4	3	7
Tuberculosis of Lungs	1	6	7
Other tuberculous diseases	2	2	4
Cancer, malignant disease	2	8	10
Rheumatic fever.....	1	—	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	2	5	7
Heart Disease	12	9	21
Arterio-sclerosis	8	8	16
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	5	6
Other respiratory diseases	1	2	3
Diarrhœa, etc.(under 2 years).....	1	1	2
Acute and chronic nephritis	4	5	9
Puerperal sepsis.....	—	1	1
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	—	1	1
Congenital debility and malforma- tion, premature birth	3	—	3
Other deaths from violence	4	1	5
Other defined diseases	17	13	30
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	2	2
Total.....	65	75	140

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	Sex.	Age.	Causes of Death.
1	F.	1 month ..	(1) Malnutrition
2	M.	1 day	(2) Convulsions
3	F.	2 months ..	Premature Birth
4	M.	1 day	(1) Bronchitis
5	F.	4 months ..	(2) Syncope
6	F.	11 months ..	(1) Premature Birth
7	F.	5 days	(2) Convulsions
8	F.	27 days	(1) Broncho-Pneumonia
9	F.	1 day	(2) Whooping Cough
10	M.	2 months ..	(1) Convulsions
11	M.	3 months ..	(2) Gastro-enteritis
12	F.	5 months ..	Asphyxia by overlying whilst in bed with parents
13	M.	2 months ..	(1) Pertussis
14	M.	6 days	(2) Broncho-Pneumonia Syncope
			(1) Acute Diarrhœa
			(2) Congenital Debility
			Tuberculous Peritonitis
			Idiopathic Myxæmus
			Inherent Debility and Shock through being placed too near to a coal fire

6 Males, 8 Females. Total, 14.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	81	81	Nil
Scarlet Fever	24	23	Nil
Typhoid Fever	1	1	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	2	Nil	1
Erysipelas	3	Nil	Nil
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis:—			
(a) Pulmonary	M 4	1	1
,,	F 9	4	7
	13		
(b) Non-Pulmonary	M 3	—	1
	F 2	2	2
	5		

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Unim- paired.	Vision Im- paired	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria.....	-	2	-	8	9	30	18	6	6	2	-	81
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	1	13	1	4	3	-	-	24
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	3
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total.....	-	2	-	10	11	44	19	10	11	5	-	112
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	3	1	13
Other Tuberculosis.....	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	5
Total.....	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	9	4	1	18

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.—Eleven deaths; 7 of them were not notified. Ratio 7 to 11. The ages of the deaths were as follows:—5 months, 11 years, 14, 18, 20, 34, 35, 40, 42, 52, and 59.

DEATH FROM PNEUMONIA.—One, aged 43 years.

INFECTIOUS CASES NOTIFIED IN THE DIFFERENT PARISHES.

Disease	Bapchild	Bobbing	Borden	Bredgar	Halstow	Hartlip	Murston	Newington	Rainham	Rodmersham	Tong	Tunstall	Upchurch	Total
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria.....	1	2	1	—	4	1	2	2	52	1	—	—	15	81
Scarlet Fever	2	4	1	—	3	—	2	—	6	—	1	2	3	24
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	—	3	—	—	1	5	—	2	—	—	1	—	13
Other Tuberculosis.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	5
Erysipelas	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total.....	5	6	6	1	7	2	11	5	62	1	1	3	18	128

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Diphtheria prevalent in the Parish of Rainham. This is likely to continue until improvements are made as regards the disposal of the sewage.

SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING.—A District Nurse is engaged in a few of the parishes, and maintained by voluntary subscription.

MIDWIVES.—Number of Midwives practising in the district: Three, in private practice.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—School Clinic every Saturday morning, County Council. School Clinic for Dental Work, every Thursday, County Council. School Clinic for Eye Treatment, every Wednesday, County Council. Two Child Welfares, each one held once a fortnight. Rainham every other Tuesday, Murston every other Wednesday. Tuberculosis Dispensary every Monday. Venereal Centre every Friday.

HOSPITALS provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.—Tuberculosis Sanatorium, No. of beds 46 (40 by County Council): Fever Hospital, No. of beds 102, by Local Authority. Small-Pox Hospital, No. of beds 20, by Local Authority.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.—None.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. — (a) For infectious cases, by Local Authority; (b) for non-infectious and accident cases, by Local Authority.

LABORATORY WORK.—All done by the County Medical Officer at Sessions House, Maidstone.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.—Sanitary Inspector, who is also Certified Meat Inspector. Health Visitor, general training 3 years.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Milton Rural District contains 16 parishes, which surround on all sides the Urban Districts of Sittingbourne and Milton Regis. The parishes are typically agricultural, except those bordering the Swale and Creeks, where brick and cement making have caused aggregations of Urban population in the portion of these parishes near the Creeks, notably Rainham and Murston.

INDUSTRIES. — (1) Agriculture—chiefly fruit and hops. Since the War, the acreage of hops has been decreased. (2) Brick, and (3) cement making; and (4) the barge industry, which brings refuse from London for brickmaking, and the exportation of bricks.

ROADS.—There are 17 miles of main roads, and of bye-roads 101 miles. As a rule these roads are in good condition, but some of the roads which are not taken over by the Council are in a very bad state.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—Every year a certain amount of improvement is being carried out, but there still remains much more to be done. I hope soon to see that all the W.C.'s have proper flushing cisterns provided. The need for the sewerage of Rainham is as urgent as ever. This should be proceeded with at the earliest possible moment.

WATER SUPPLY.—This, taken as a whole, is very satisfactory, both as regards purity and quantity. The district is supplied by the Sittingbourne Waterworks, the Rainham Waterworks, Milton Regis Waterworks, and the Mid-Kent Water Company. The mains in some parishes might be extended with advantage.

The Sittingbourne Works supply the following parishes: Murston, Bapchild, Tonge, and parts of Bobbing, Newington, and Borden. The Rainham Works supply Rainham, Upchurch, Hartlip, Newington, and Halstow. The Mid-Kent Company supply Kingsdown, Milstead, Rodmersham, Bredgar, Borden, Tonge, and Tunstall. The Milton Regis Works supply Iwade.

These waters are all of good quality, and the Rainham water, which comes from the green sand, the boring being at a depth of 900 feet, is of excellent quality. The great drawback to the Sittingbourne water is its hardness, having 19.1 degrees, compared with 0.5 of the Rainham water, per gallon.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—There is none in the district.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.—There are 9 slaughterhouses in the district, as follows:—Rainham 4, Newington 1, Bapchild 1, Borden 1, Halstow 1, Upchurch 1.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There is none in the district.

TO THE MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my Report for the year 1921.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out under the above Regulations:—

Number of houses inspected and details recorded.....	358
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation ...	0
Number of houses made habitable without Closing Orders	195
Number of Houses inspected, details not being recorded	123
Total number of houses at which sanitary defects were found	208
Total number of houses for which Intimation Notices were served	208
Total number of houses for which Statutory Notices were served	2
Total number of nuisances abated	526
Complaints received and dealt with	34
Number of re-inspections to properties under notice for repairs	632

Summary of nature and number of nuisances abated during the year:—

Damp houses remedied	24
Houses re-decorated	36
Roofs repaired	37
Gutters or down pipes cleansed or repaired	31
Doors or windows repaired	38
Floors or plaster repaired	72
Grates or coppers repaired	24
Paving relaid or repaired	7
Drains repaired, etc.	71
Cesspools recovered, ventilated, etc.	27
New sinks provided	18
Water closets or privies repaired	86
Urinals cleansed or repaired	3
Offensive accumulations removed	5
Animal nuisances remedied	2
New or improved water supply provided...	3
Other nuisances remedied	42

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Investigations have been made and the necessary disinfection carried out in connection with 24 cases of Scarlet Fever, 81 cases of Diphtheria, 13 cases of Tuberculosis, and 1 case of Typhoid.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEATSHOPS, &c.

There are 11 slaughterhouses in your district, distributed as follows:—Bapchild 1, Borden 2, Halstow 2, Newington 1, Rainham 4, Upchurch 1. In addition there are 19 meatshops and 3 fish shops. 327 inspections have been made during the year. It has been necessary to condemn as unfit for human food 146lbs. of meat.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 28 cowkeepers in your district, and these are distributed as follows:—Bobbing 2, Borden 1, Bredgar 4, Halstow 3, Hartlip 2, Kingsdown 1, Milsted 4, Murston 2, Newington 1, Rainham 3, Bapchild 1, Rodmersham 1, Tunstall 1, Upchurch 2. Periodical inspections have been made during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are on the register 23 factories and 41 workshops and workplaces, including 9 bakehouses. Fifty-seven inspections have been made during the year.

I am, Gentlemen, Yours obediently,

JOSEPH VARLEY,

Sanitary Inspector from Sept. 12th to Dec. 31st.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Borough of Queenborough,

For the Year 1921.

Borough of Queenborough.

THE CORPORATION.

COUNCILLOR S. JOHNSON, J.P., *Mayor*.

ALDERMAN E. W. JAFFRAY, J.P., *Deputy and Ex-Mayor*.

ALDERMAN F. CHAMPION.

„ J. S. BILLS.

„ J. STEVENS.

COUNCILLOR S. AUSTIN.

„ T. W. BRIGHTMAN.

„ W. S. FENTON.

„ G. H. GILES.

„ R. J. JENNINGS.

„ W. LODDER.

„ C. J. LEEMING.

„ B. J. MAYLAND.

„ MRS. RUNHAM.

„ C. R. STEVENS.

„ F. STEVENS.

Town Clerk—E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector—HORATIO SMALL,
M.R.S.I.

Health Visitor and District Nurse—Nurse COOPER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1921.

TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OF QUEENBOROUGH.

MR. MAYOR, LADY, AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1921.

THE NEEDS OF THE BOROUGH.—I must repeat what I said in my Report for 1920, viz., I consider the most urgent is better school accommodation. The Bethel Sunday School, with the striped-coloured windows, must be most detrimental to the eyesight. The building, in my opinion, is not at all suitable for a school. I hope this will receive your careful consideration. I came to this conclusion during the War, but thought nothing could be done till Peace was declared. I do hope this important matter will have your careful consideration.

As regards Housing Accommodation, I am very sorry to find the proposed scheme has fallen through.

I consider a Cottage Hospital for the Island is urgently needed.

As this is my last Annual Report, I take the opportunity to tender to your Council my sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy I have received during the time I have had the honour of acting as your temporary Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Lady, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., &c.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA (acres).—1,377.

POPULATION (1921).—3,115.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1921).—571.

RATEABLE VALUE.—£16,103.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE.—£55 (about).

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.—Legitimate, 36 males, 38 females; illegitimate, 1 male, 4 females; total births, 37 males, 42 females.

BIRTH RATE (Registrar-General).—25.3; 1920, 29.2.

DEATHS.—27.

DEATH RATE (Registrar-General).—8.6; 1920, 9.1.

NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF CHILDBIRTH.—From Sepsis, nil; from other causes, nil.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE, PER 1,000 BIRTHS.—177.2; 1920, 88.2. Legitimate, 12; illegitimate, 2; total, 14.

DEATHS FROM MEASLES (ALL AGES).—Nil.

DEATHS FROM WHOOPING COUGH (ALL AGES).—Nil.

DEATHS FROM DIARRHŒA (UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE).—1.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment.—Nil.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

	Sex.	Age.	Cause of Death.
1	F.	4 months ..	(1) Bronchitis (2) Broncho-Pneumonia
2	M.	6 months ..	(1) Acute-Bronchitis (2) Cardiac Failure
3	F.	2 hours	(1) Birth (2) Asphyxia
4	M.	30 minutes..	(1) Birth (2) Asphyxia
5	M.	1 day	(1) Premature Birth (2) Asphyxia
6	M.	2 hours	(1) Premature Birth (2) Inanition
7	M.	2 hours	(1) Premature Birth (2) Inanition
8	M.	2 hours	(1) Premature Birth (2) Inanition
9	F.	2 hours	(1) Premature Birth (2) Inanition
10	F.	7 months ..	(1) Dentition (2) Convulsions
11	M.	10 months ..	(1) Acute Bronchitis (2) Meningitis
12	F.	9 days.....	(1) Mal. Development (2) Convulsions
13	M.	5 months ..	(1) Dentition (2) Convulsions Cardiac Failure
14	F.	4 months ..	(1) Umbilical Hernia (2) Post Operative Pneumonia

CAUSES OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1921.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	2	2	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	—	1	1
Arterio Sclerosis	—	1	1
Bronchitis	2	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	1	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	—	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	1	1
Congenital Debility & Malformation } Premature Birth	5	3	8
Deaths from Violence	—	2	2
Other Defined Diseases.....	2	2	4
Total.....	11	16	27

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	5	3	Nil
Scarlet Fever	8	8	Nil
Typhoid Fever.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	Nil	Nil	2
Erysipelas	Nil	Nil	Nil
Malaria	2	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis:—			
(a) Pulmonary.....	M 3	1 (Sanatorium)	—
„	F —	—	1
	—		
	3		
(b) Non-Pulmonary	M 3	Nil	1
	F —	Nil	—
	—		
	3		

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Unim- paired.	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	5
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	3	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	8
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Total.....	2	-	1	3	-	3	3	-	2	1	-	15
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3
Other Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	6

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.—Two deaths, both of which had been notified. The ages of the deaths were as follows:—10 months and 27 years.

DEATHS FROM BRONCHO-PNEUMONIA.—Two deaths from Broncho-Pneumonia.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.—Nothing particular to report.

SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING and a Sanatorium for Tuberculosis.

Nurse Cooper acts as Health Visitor and District Nurse.

As regards Infectious Hospital, arrangements are made with the Keycol Hospital to receive their cases at a fixed weekly payment.

MIDWIVES.—Number of Midwives practising in the district.—One.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES, CHILD WELFARE, every Wednesday and Thursday.

HOSPITALS provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.—Tuberculosis, No. of beds 46 (40 by the County Council).

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.—None.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) For infectious cases, by Local Authority; (b) for non-infectious and accident cases, by public subscription.

LABORATORY WORK.—All done by the County Medical Officer, at Sessions House, Maidstone.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.—Sanitary Inspector, S.Inst.; Health Visitor, 3 years general training. District Nurse, Medico-Psychological Association Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate.

Queenborough, April, 1922.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1921.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1921.

There is only one slaughterhouse in the town, and this has been frequently inspected whilst killing was in operation, and as a result various sanitary improvements have been carried out.

The following quantities of food have been condemned:—Scwts. 3 qrs. 20lbs. of beef. 95 tins of condensed milk. 42lbs. of haddock. 1 bushel of winkles. 3 boxes of kippers.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Ten cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, and the infected premises were in every case fumigated, and, where necessary, the walls were stripped and thoroughly disinfected and re-decorated.

Sanitary defects necessitating repairs to houses and yards have been discovered and remedied in a large number of cases. There is still difficulty in the direction of sanitary dustbins, owing principally to the short time the dustbins last. Eighty notices were served to owners to provide new dustbins, and approximately 60 were provided. Owners are constantly being pressed to provide dustbins, and considerable improvement has resulted during the year.

DRAINAGE.—Drains are cleared without charge to owners in cases where it is not found necessary to open the ground. The attention of the Council's workmen in this direction has maintained efficient drainage during the year.

WATER SUPPLY. — The water supply for the year has been maintained. The Ministry of Health held an inquiry with reference to the Council's application for a loan for a new Storage Reservoir of 175,000 gallons capacity, and new pumps in duplicate of 12,000 gallons per hour capacity. This work was started during the year and will be completed in 1922, and should result in greatly increased supply with a reduction in the cost of pumping.

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.—Great improvement resulted in the working of this service by direct labour. All premises were cleared regularly of refuse, and the bins disinfected where necessary.

OVERCROWDING.—The evil of overcrowding has been somewhat mitigated during the year, owing to the slump in the trade of the town. I regret, however, that the Housing Scheme has been abandoned, as the overcrowding is likely to become more acute than ever when local trade revives.

Two certificates only were given during the year for fitness for habitation (two houses at Rushenden).

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HORATIO SMALL, M.M.C.E., M.R.S.I.,
Borough Surveyor.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of Sheerness,

For the Year 1921.

Sheerness Urban District Council,

1921-22.

Chairman—W. N. RULE, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman—J. BARBER.

COUNCILLOR J. AUTY.

„ P. BARNES.
„ MRS. A. DURANT.
„ E. W. JACOBS.
„ W. H. MASON.
„ W. J. PENNEY, J.P.
„ A. SPEARS, J.P.
„ S. H. THOMSETT.
„ G. WOODTHORPE.
„ W. J. THWAITES, J.P.

Clerk to the Council—V. H. STALLON, Solicitor.

Consulting and Superintending Engineer—

MR. F. W. S. STANTON, A.M.I.C.E., F.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor—

MR. F. R. GRAY, M.I.M. & C.Y.E., M.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector—MR. S. GREEN.

Superintendent of Mothers' Welfare and Health Visitor—

NURSE AYLWARD.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1921.

TO THE SHEERNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1921.

I am pleased to state that the four urgent requirements of your district specially mentioned by me in my report of last year are, with one exception, viz., that of Hospital provision, progressing satisfactorily.

(1) WATER SUPPLY.—A constant water supply is expected at an early date.

(2) SEWERAGE.—The third portion of this scheme is well in hand.

(3) HOUSING.—Fifty houses of the Botany Road Housing Scheme have been built, and are now occupied; the remaining 106 are well in hand. The 20 houses in Coronation Road are also built and occupied, and tends somewhat to relieve the still existant overcrowding.

(4) HOSPITAL PROVISION.—Still badly needed, but apparently little progress made.

Mr. S. Green, your Assistant Sanitary Inspector, has carried out his duties with efficiency and credit, and to my entire satisfaction. The office of your Sanitary Inspector is well equipped with all the information necessary for the well-being of your district, and reflects great praise upon all concerned. I consider Mr. Gray a most valuable Sanitary Inspector.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDS GIBSON, D.P.H., Camb., &c.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1921, COMPARED WITH 1920,
1919, 1918, 1917, AND 1916.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ..	13.9	13.3	18.5	12.9	10.5	10.5
Infant Morality (percentage dying under one year)	7.6	9.11	10.6	7.86	5.5	6.7
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ..	30.7	21.4	18.3	22.2	27.4	20.5
Total Infectious Diseases (excluding Consumption and Measles) ..	117	42	43	66	80	188
Cases of Typhoid Fever.. .. .	24	8	8	5	6	2
Cases of Diphtheria	45	16	14	10	9	11
Cases of Scarlet Fever	31	10	12	12	47	156
Cases of Tuberculosis notified (all forms)	44	32	30	25	31	27
Deaths from Tuberculosis	15	26	23	22	17	19
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	3	1	3	5	3

TYPHOID FEVER.—Altogether 2 cases were notified, 1 from Marine Town and 1 from Mile Town, West Minster. The average for the preceding five years was 10 cases per annum.

DIPHTHERIA.—Altogether 11 cases were notified, 5 from Marine Town, 5 from Mile Town, and 1 from Blue Town. The average for the preceding five years was 18 cases per annum.

SCARLET FEVER.—Altogether 156 cases were notified. Of these 70 were notified from Marine Town, 60 from Mile Town, 21 from Blue Town, and 5 from West Minster. The average for the preceding five years was 22 cases per annum.

ERYSIPELAS.—Ten cases were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Altogether 27 cases were notified, 21 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Consumption, and 6 cases of Tuberculosis in other forms.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1921.

Disease.	Total number notified.	Districts.				Number removed to Hospital.	At Home.
		Marine Town.	Mile Town.	Blue Town.	West Minster		
Diphtheria	11	5	5	1	-	10	1
Erysipelas	10	3	7	-	-	-	10
Scarlet Fever	156	70	60	21	5	151	5
Enteric Fever	2	1	-	-	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	2	1	-	-	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	21	12	8	1	-	-	-
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	6	4	2	-	-	-	-
Malaria	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia following Influenza	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	5	3	2	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
Grand Totals	215	100	85	23	6	164	24

The Patients were removed in each of the above cases of removal to the Keycol Hill Isolation Hospital, Sittingbourne.

MALARIA.—No cases during the year.

TOTALS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SHEERNESS,
FOR THE YEARS 1900 TO 1921 INCLUSIVE.

Years	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Scarlet Fever	14	16	—	21	35	90	32	58	31	51	64	69	41	80	132	56	31	10	12	12	47	156
Diphtheria	3	16	—	4	17	19	4	2	8	7	11	7	6	10	65	130	45	16	14	10	9	11
Typhoid	40	25	—	16	23	18	42	7	21	28	15	7	6	4	21	20	24	8	8	5	6	2
Small-Pox..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	58
C. S. Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	25	29	18	27	23	18	15	15	8	4	7	2	2	10
Consumption (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	39	50	34	36	44	32	30	25	31	27
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

October, 1911—Removal of cases to Keycol Hospital commenced.

DEATHS UNDER THE AGE OF ONE YEAR.

1921	Sex.	Area.	Age.	Cause.
January ..	M	Mile Town ..	9 months	Tubercular Meningitis
"	F	Blue Town ..	8 months	Cerebral Meningitis
"	M	Marine Town	4 months	Acute Bronchitis
"	F	"	9 days ..	Premature Birth
February	M	Mile Town ..	20 hours ..	Premature Birth
March ..	F	"	4 months	Convulsions
"	M	Marine Town	5 months	Broncho-Pneumonia
"	M	"	1 month..	Broncho-Pneumonia
April ..	M	Mile Town ..	7 months	Dentition
"	M	Marine Town	7 months	Convulsions
June ..	F	"	4 months	Bronchitis
"	F	Mile Town ..	1 month..	Debility from Birth
"	M	"	1 day ..	Premature Birth
July ..	M	Marine Town	1 hour ..	Inanition
"	M	Mile Town ..	18 hours ..	Debility from Birth
August ..	F	"	13 days ..	Gastro Enteritis
September	F	Marine Town	21 days ..	Pertussis
"	M	"	6 months	Gastro Enteritis
"	F	Blue Town ..	4 months	Gastro Enteritis
"	F	Mile Town ..	1 day ..	Congenital Atelectaxis
"	M	"	2 days ..	Cyanosis due to patent formula ovale
October ..	M	Marine Town	1 day ..	Difficult Labour
November	M	Mile Town ..	1 month ..	Congenital Hypertrophic Stenosis of Pylorus

NOTIFICATIONS OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
RECEIVED FROM SHEERNESS SCHOOLS DURING 1921.

				Measles	Chicken Pox	Whooping Cough	Mumps	Ringworm	3kin Disease	Influenza
January ..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
February	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
March ..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
April ..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May ..	..	..	..	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
June ..	..	..	..	-	12	-	-	-	1	-
July ..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August ..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
October	..	..	..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	..	..	..	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
December	..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ..				1	12	4	2	2	7	-

I gladly acknowledge the co-operation of many of the Head Teachers in this notification of communicable diseases to the Health Department. Upon receipt of this information we supply the parent with printed instructions for the treatment of the disease to prevent its spread, also the Health Visitor is informed in certain cases, and she visits the home and gives advice. The cases also are notified to the School Nurse, who has certain duties in these matters. The effect, therefore, is not only to help the child, and to prevent the spread of disease, but also to get children back to school as soon as possible. It is, therefore, in the interests of the Head Teachers to notify. I trust, therefore, that the reluctance to notify displayed in some cases will entirely disappear. It will be noted that no school is mentioned by name in this report, so that the notifications are not used to advertise any school's misfortune in having cases of communicable disease.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.—The population is that registered and corrected by the Registrar-General for 1921 to be 18,720, exclusive of the Naval shore population and the Garrison, but including non-civilians enlisted from the district whether serving at home or abroad. This population is used for Birth Rate calculations. For Death Rate calculations all non-civilians are excluded, and this is estimated to be 16,516.

BIRTHS.—During 1921 there were 384 births registered, compared with 468 in 1920. The Birth Rate per 1,000 is 20.5, compared with 27.4 in 1920. The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 22.4.

DEATHS.—During 1921 there were 174 deaths, as compared with 169 in 1920. The Death Rate is 10.5, as compared with 10.5 in 1920. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 12.1.

INFANT MORTALITY.—During 1921 there were 26 infants who died under one year of age, of which none were illegitimate. In 1920 there were 26, of which 2 were illegitimate. In 1919 there were 28. The Infant Mortality Rate is 67.7 per 1,000 births, compared with 55 in 1920, 78.6 in 1919, 106 in 1918, 81 in 1917, 76 in 1916, 154 in 1915, 160 in 1914, and 58 in 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1921.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Enteric Fever	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	8	16
Tubercular Meningitis	1	—	1
Other Tuberculosis.. .. .	2	1	3
Cancer	13	7	20
Organic Heart Disease	9	4	13
Bronchitis	10	2	12
Pneumonia	7	5	12
Other Respiratory Diseases.. .. .	1	—	1
Diarrhœa (under two years)	2	4	6
Appendicitis	1	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1
Nephritis	1	1	2
Parturition	—	3	3
Congenital Debility	7	2	9
Violence	4	1	5
Suicide	2	1	3
Other defined Diseases	15	16	31
Causes ill defined	1	—	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	7	10	17
Diphtheria	1	1	2
Influenza	2	2	4
Arterio Sclerosis	5	3	8
Diabetes	1	1	2
	99	75	174

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Urban District Council in October, 1911, entered into an agreement with the Sittingbourne and Milton Joint Hospital Board for the isolation of their cases of infectious disease at Keycol Hill Hospital, for a period of three years. The agreement terminated on the 30th September, 1914, but was renewed on the 1st of October, 1914, for a period of seven years.

The agreement was extended to include the isolation of Small-Pox patients, from the 8th of January, 1915.

Cases isolated at Keycol were as follows:—

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Scarlet Fever	76	126	50	29	6	12	11	44	151
Diphtheria	10	64	113	40	14	13	10	8	10
Typhoid Fever	4	16	16	17	8	8	5	4	1
Total	90	206	179	86	28	33	26	56	162

The cases are moved by horse ambulance to Keycol Hospital, which is about 11 miles from Sheerness. This long journey is not satisfactory for severe cases, particularly of

Typhoid Fever and Diphtheria. A Joint Isolation Hospital is required in the Isle of Sheppey for the three Authorities—Sheerness, Queenborough, and Sheppey Rural. A three-block hospital of about 30 to 40 beds would be required.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

By the Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918, every Council exercising powers under the Act (which includes all the Councils of North-East Kent Joint Districts) was compelled to establish a Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and all matters relating to the powers of the Councils in respect of this work (except raising a rate or borrowing money) shall stand referred to such Committee, and the Councils (unless the matter is urgent), shall not exercise any such powers without receiving and considering the report of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee on the matter. The Council may delegate its powers to the Committee with or without conditions as they think fit.

During 1919 Sheerness Urban District Council formed a Statutory Maternity and Child Welfare Committee from the Health Committee, with the addition of certain ladies co-opted.

Great progress is to be recorded in this work during the year. Weekly Lectures and Mothers' Teas have been organised. The Welcome meets three days a week, and special consultations by appointment. The Welfare is well supported by the Chairman and lady helpers.

Milk, dried and fresh, is provided for necessitous mothers and infants. Dried milk and Virol are sold. Garment-making classes are held in addition to the routine lecturing and baby weighing of the Welcome.

The following figures give some indication of the work done in 1921:—

Births Registered.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.
Births Notified..	Legitimate.... 376	Illegitimate. .. 8	384
Still Births 0	Breast Fed .. 295	Artificial Feeding 89	

Of the 89 artificial fed, 57 were on Glaxo, 20 on cow's milk and barley water, 10 on Nestle's milk, and 2 on Allenbury's Food. All bottles used were of correct pattern.

Births attended by doctors, 194; by midwives, 190.

WORK OF HEALTH VISITOR.—First visits made, 380; re-visits, 1,168. Total, 1,548 visits. In addition 685 house-to-house visits were paid, and also 76 visits to cases of infectious disease, viz., 29 to Measles, 43 to Whooping Cough, and 2 to Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

WORK AT MOTHERS' WELCOME AND INFANT CENTRE.—Average weekly attendance:—Mothers, 136; children, 153. 236 garments made by mothers, and 39 woollies. The year ended with a successful Christmas party, at which a large number of mothers and children were present. The year reflects the greatest credit on Nurse Aylward and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

The Sheerness Infant Welfare Centre was first installed in one room in Trinity Road; later in two rooms at No. 17, Alma Road; and afterwards with a view to its being housed in the same premises as the Maternity Centre, at "Holborn Villa," where it was given three rooms. Early this year it was removed to "Trinity Villa," where the same accommodation has been provided, and is very satisfactory to all concerned.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Sheerness occupies the north-west corner of the Isle of Sheppey, and has an area of 864 acres. The whole of the district is flat, and is below high-water level. The rateable value is £79,506, and a rate of 1d. in the £ produces about £331.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.—At the 1911 Census the average number of persons per house was 5.68. Serious cases of overcrowding are frequently met with. A great many houses are occupied by more than one family. Houses in the older part of the town (Blue Town and Mile Town) have very little open space about them. The houses in Blue Town particularly are close packed—over 430 dwellings on just over 8 acres of land. This is the poorer part of the town. There are many two-roomed tenements in Blue Town, and the property is often found dilapidated and insanitary. The housing inspection of the town is complete, and records are kept of every house, while a more complete and detailed housing survey of the structural conditions, size of rooms, plans of drainage, etc., of every house in the district is now well in hand. Together with these particulars a complete Infectious Disease history of each house is being made.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACTS, 1909 to 1919.

Number of houses inspected during the year	349
Number of houses represented as unfit for human habitation under Section 17	Nil

Number of Closing Orders made by Local Authority ...	Nil
Number of Closing Orders determined by Local Authority	Nil
Demolition Orders made by Local Authority	17
Number of Closing Orders remaining in operation on the 31st December, 1920.	230

Areas which are amendable under Part I. or Part II. of the Act of 1890, as UNHEALTHY AREAS.

- (a) The portion of Blue Town bounded on the NORTH SIDE by High Street, extending from Nos. 11 to 32 inclusive. On the SOUTH SIDE by the boundary wall of Well Marsh. On the EAST SIDE by a line drawn from High Street to the Well Marsh boundary wall, and including No. 11, High Street, No. 4, Shrubsole Cottage, No. 43, East Lane, and No. 34, East Lane. On the WEST SIDE by a line drawn adjacent and west of No. 32, High Street, to Charles Street, including Nos. 35 to 27, thence along Sheppey Street, including Nos. 4 to 28, to the Well Marsh boundary wall.

Approximate acreage.—Rather less than three acres.

Number of houses.—121.

Approximate population.—320.

BRIEF PARTICULARS OF CONDITIONS WHICH MAKE THE AREA UNHEALTHY :—

- (1) That out of 121 dwellinghouses there are 67 unfit for human habitation.
 - (2) That the narrowness, closeness, bad arrangement of the houses within the area, and the want of light, air, and ventilation are injurious to the health of the inhabitants.
 - (3) Of dwellinghouses alone there are over 40 to the acre.
 - (4) Of the 121 dwellinghouses, less than 20 have garden space attached to the house.
- (b) The portion of Blue Town bounded on the NORTH SIDE by High Street, extending from No. 50 to Court House. On the WEST SIDE, from Nos. 1 to 25, West Street inclusive.

On the SOUTH SIDE by Railway Road.

On the EAST SIDE by the West Side of Chapel Street.

Approximate acreage.— $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Number of houses.—170.

Approximate population.—510.

BRIEF PARTICULARS OF CONDITIONS WHICH MAKE THE AREA
UNHEALTHY:—

- (1) That out of 170 dwelling-houses there are 36 unfit for human habitation.
- (2) That the narrowness, closeness, and bad arrangement of the houses within the area, and the want of light and ventilation are injurious to the health of the inhabitants.
- (3) Of dwelling-houses alone there are 30.9 to the acre.
- (4) Within the area the widest street is 25 feet.

PROPOSED ACTION:—

What immediate action is contemplated by the Local Authority with regard to—

- (a) Houses which are not and cannot be made fit for human habitation.—Closing Orders have been made, but further action is deferred for the immediate present.
- (b) Houses which are seriously defective, but can be made habitable.—Official notices have been served, and they are being made fit for human habitation as labour conditions and shortage of material allow. Owing to the large number of houses involved a high standard of fitness cannot be insisted upon, and many of the houses in respect to which Closing Orders will have been withdrawn, will have had executed repairs of a temporary nature only.
- (c) Within what time is it contemplated that conditions will be such as to warrant the demolition of the houses which are not and cannot be made fit for human habitation.—Two years.

LIST OF HOUSES DEALT WITH UNDER SECTIONS 17 AND 18 OF
THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1919, DURING
THE YEAR 1920, AND STILL REMAINING:—

CLOSING ORDERS MADE:—

Mile Town—Total, 122.

Bell Alley—Nos. 35, 41, 43, 28, 30, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, & 45.

Broad Street—No. 4.

Chapel Square—Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Court's Buildings—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

High Street Passage—Nos. 1, 9, and 10.

High Street—Nos. 113, 167, 169, and 226.

Hotel Passage—1, 2, 3, and 4.

Hope Street—Nos. 19, 19a, 19b, 21, 21a, 21b, 40a, 42a, 53, 55, 57, 59, and 79.

Invicta Road—Nos. 181 and 183.

North Passage—Nos. 1 and 1a.

North Street Passage—No. 3.

Rose Street—Nos. 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 58, 60, 53, 55, 71, and 73.

Russell Street—Nos. 20a, 58, 79, 79a, 79b, 81, 81a, 81b, 83, 85, 89b, 100, 102a, 74, 74a, 76, and 76a.

Railway Road—Nos. 16, 24, and 25.
 Spring Garden Passage—Nos. 20, 20a, 21, 21a, 30a.
 Short Street—No. 30.
 Shakespeare Court—Nos. 1, 2, and 3.
 Trinity Place—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
 Victory Street—Nos. 12, 14, 16, 18a, 18, 20, 20a, 19, 34,
 and 36.
 Wood Street—Nos. 12, 12a, 14, 14a, 16, 16a, 16b, 16c, back
 of No. 18, and No. 23.
Blue Town—Total, 105.
 Bethel Passage—Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 4, 6, 16, and 18.
 Bentham Square—Nos. 1, 1a, 2, 3, 3a, 4, 4a, 5, and 6.
 Chapel Street—Nos. 32, 49, and 51.
 Charles Street—Nos. 6, 10, 12, and 27.
 East Lane—Nos. 2, 8, 10, 12, 14, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28,
 30, 32, 34, and 42. Nos. 15, 17, 19, 21, 31, 33, 35,
 37, and 39.
 Edward Street—Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.
 King Street—Nos. 4, 6, 11, 26, 28, 30, 25, 29, 31, 33, 32,
 37, and 43.
 High Street—Nos. 31 and 32.
 Kent Street—Nos. 1, 4, 9, 5, 6, and 6a.
 Shrubsole's Cottages—Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
 Sheppey Street—Nos. 14, 14a, 24, 26, 28, 8, 10, 12, and 12a.
 Short Street—Nos. 2, 4, 6, 7, and 8.
 School Lane—Nos. 1 and 2.
 Union Street—Nos. 19, 24, 26, 28, and 30.
 West Lane—No. 5.
 West Passage—No. 8.
 West Street—No. 38.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACT, 1909.

MEMORANDUM ON THE REPAIR OF HOUSES CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HABITATION.

(Approved by the Sheerness Health Committee.)

Particulars of work required to be executed in order to render Dwelling-houses fit for Habitation after Closing Orders have been made.

ROOFS.—All roofs to be made thoroughly sound and weather-proof; gutters and spouting to be put in perfect order and renewed if necessary.

WALLS.—Walls to be thoroughly repaired and made sound. Perished brickwork to be made good. Repointing to be done where necessary. Bulged portions to be taken out and rebuilt. Where a wooden house is closed it must be rebuilt in brick.

DAMPNESS.—A damp-proof course to be provided to all damp walls, at or about the ground level, of approved material. The walls not to be re-papered (they may be colour-washed) until they are in a dry condition.

VENTILATION UNDER FLOORS.—Ventilation bricks to be provided beneath all wooden floors where practicable.

PLASTER.—All old, defective, and wet plaster on walls to be hacked off, and the whole surface re-plastered with good cement plaster.

CEILINGS.—Ceilings to be repaired and made thoroughly sound.

FLOORS.—All floors to be made sound and even, all perished brick to be replaced, and where necessary the whole floor to be relaid. Wooden floors and cement floors to be made sound and repaired where necessary.

LIGHT AND VENTILATION.—Every room in the house to be properly lighted and ventilated; where necessary new windows to be provided or existing windows to be enlarged to at least $1/10$ of the floor area. Where necessary, in order to improve the lighting, the existing windows to be lifted up to the level of the ceilings. Every window to be capable of being opened and fixed open. Broken panes to be replaced, and where necessary sashes to be renewed, and proper window sills provided.

WOODWORK.—All woodwork, such as doors, windows, cupboards, skirtings, bannister rails, etc., to be repaired and made thoroughly sound. All hinges and fastenings to be put in good condition and to work properly. Staircases to be thoroughly sound and rebuilt or repaired as may be necessary.

CUPBOARDS AND PANTRIES.—Every living-room to be provided with a suitable closed cupboard, and where there is no separate pantry, the cupboard to be ventilated into the open-air and provided with a window and frame at least 24in. by 18in. The cupboard, pantry, or larder should not adjoin any fireplace or chimney flue.

FIREPLACE.—A sound fire-grate of approved construction, comprising both oven and boiler, to be provided in the living-room. All chimneys to be in good working order.

WATER SUPPLY AND SINK.—The water supply service to be brought inside the house, and the tap fixed over a glazed stoneware sink, provided with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. lead syphon, trapped waste-pipe, the waste-pipe to discharge on to a channel leading to a gully trap in the yard.

PAVING.—The paving outside the house to be made thoroughly sound and relaid where necessary. Where no paving exists sufficient cement concrete paving to be provided. A cement concrete paving to consist of a foundation 4in. thick, of one part cement to five of ballast, with a finished surface consisting of one part cement to two parts of slag.

WATER CLOSETS.—The water closets to be in thorough repair and the roof weather-proof; the water closets to be properly lighted and ventilated, the flushing cistern in good order, and the woodwork and pan sound. (Pans of the long hopper type prohibited.)

DRAINS AND GULLIES.—Drains to be tested and made thoroughly sound, and approved gullies to be provided where necessary.

PAINTING, &c.—All old paint on woodwork, both inside and outside the building, to be burnt off, and re-painted with two coats of paint. All old paper to be removed. Walls to be colour-washed or re-papered.

OUTBUILDINGS.—Where outbuildings exist, these are to be put into thorough repair, and to be limewashed or colour-washed where necessary.

ASHBIN.—A sufficient and suitable galvanised iron receptacle, with a proper lid, to be provided for ashes at each house.

All work will be inspected and approved by the Medical Officer of Health on completion.

Owners are advised before proceeding with repairs to send specification of work proposed to be done to the Medical Officer of Health, Health Department, Council Offices, Sheerness.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE WORKING-CLASSES.

There are 123 back-to-back cottages in Sheerness, 88 of which are in Mile Town, 31 in Blue Town, and 4 in West Minster. In addition there are 140 cottages with no through ventilation, of which 85 are in Blue Town, 50 in Mile Town, and 4 in West Minster. These houses, by reason of their lack of proper and sufficient ventilation cannot be regarded as satisfactory in however good repair they may be kept.

STEAM DISINFECTOR.—During the year disinfection was effected where needed, and a grand total of 1,200 articles of

clothing of every description passed through the disinfector. There was also a total of 64 books of various kinds fumigated in the Council's special fumigating room. I am pleased to state that no complaint of any kind has been received, again demonstrating the efficiency of the machine, and the carefulness of the disinfector attendant.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—A water carriage system of sewerage serves the whole of the district. Owing, however, to the absence of a continuous water supply, and the expense of storage cisterns, there are still 1,175 houses in Sheerness without flushing cisterns to water closets. There is no treatment of sewage, which is held up in storage tanks and discharged at ebb tide into the Medway. The necessity of dealing with the main drainage of the district and with the sewage pumping station has been accepted by the Council, who are fully aware of the danger to Public Health which continually threatens the district from the leaking sewers and defective water service pipes, and a Sewerage Scheme, having for its purpose the extension and remodelling of the present sewerage has been drawn out by Mr. F. W. S. Stanton, the Council's Consulting Engineer. In this scheme there is a plan for the treatment of the sewage before discharge into the Medway. The Council have accepted the scheme as a whole, but owing to the large expense involved, some £104,000, they resolved to carry out the scheme by successive instalments of about £10,000. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of these instalments, involving the erection of two pumping stations and a length of new sewerage, has been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health after enquiry, and a contract arranged as between the Council and a Sewerage Contractor, and progression has been so marked that the work is actually well in hand.

WATER SUPPLY.—The present water supply is on the "Intermittent" principle, and is derived from deep wells. The Council have constructed a storage reservoir on the summit of Southdown Hill, near Halfway Houses, capable of containing 1,000,000 gallons of water, or three days' supply. In addition to the supply of water from the old wells in Trinity Road, the Council hope to supplement the yield by putting into operation the recently sunk deep well at Sheerness East, for which, by reason of the Enteric outbreak in October, 1916, loans have been sanctioned by the Treasury for the purposes of machinery and buildings. Owing to the War the work of housing the machinery had to be held over, but this last year great progress was made, and early in 1921 pumping operations were started.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are 7 premises registered in your district. On the whole they are unsuitably placed, and

some are unsuitably built, in fact, in a severe condition of dilapidation.

	1914.	Jan. 1920.	Dec. 1920.
Registered	7	7	7
Licensed	Nil	Nil	Nil

HOUSE REFUSE.—The provision of proper sanitary dustbins by the owners of house property is insisted upon, where necessary by the Council. Collection by the Council is made bi-weekly, and the refuse is burned in a destructor. The destructor, however, is unable to deal with the amount of house refuse collected, and the necessity for its enlargement is well-known and recognised by the Council.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—There is only one set of premises used as a Dairy and Cowshed in your district. Approximately two-thirds of the town's milk is imported. There are twelve purveyors of milk registered in your district. The prevention of the adulteration of milk is under the supervision of the police in your district. Samples are frequently taken for analysis.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are three within your district. The condition was generally found to be satisfactory on inspection.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.—During the year 2 inspections were made of Factories, 49 of Workshops, and 4 of Workplaces. The defects found were generally want of cleanliness, which received immediate attention.

HOMEWORK.—No lists of workmen were received during the year.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.—The Workshops on the Register are as follows:—Tailoring 8, Carpenters 10, Dressmakers 8, Bakehouses 4, Shoe Repairers 6, Milliners 7, Miscellaneous 15; total 58.

MEAT AND FOOD.—During the past year the following unsound, unwholesome, and diseased foodstuffs have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

Beef—Chilled and frozen	650lbs.
Beef—Home-killed, diseased	5,231lbs.
Offal	660lbs.
Mutton—Imported	614lbs.
Lamb—Ditto	205lbs.
Pork—Diseased	280lbs.
Offal	250lbs.
Heads	319lbs.
Bacon	721lbs.
Ham	156lbs.
Livers—Frozen	91lbs.

Rabbits	213
Pork Brawn	7lbs.
Ox Tongue	6lbs.
Fish—Kippers	106lbs.
Mackerel	721lbs.
Haddock	118lbs.
Shrimps	105½gall.
Eggs	912
Sausages	25lbs.
Rolled Oats	7lbs.
Butter	8½lbs.
Cheese	56lbs.
Cakeoma	4pkts.
Tinned Goods—Tomatoes	92 tins
Lobster	11 tins
Pineapple	6 tins
Rabbits	14 tins
Tongue	9 tins
Salmon	29 tins
Apricot	8 tins
Corned Beef	14 tins (6lbs.)
Pears	6 tins
Condensed Milk—Sweetened	111 tins
Unsweetened	26 tins
Skimmed	9 tins

I have pleasure in reporting that in no case was it deemed necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

I trust that, eventually, the application of the Master Butchers of Sheerness (dated the 12th of January, 1915), for the erection of a Public Abattoir will materialise.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.—The work of the Sanitary Inspector has been reported on under various headings in the body of my Report, but the following summary should be added:

NUISANCES.—Notices were issued to abate the following nuisances:—

To repair dilapidated dwellings	31
To repair defective roofs causing dampness	54
To cleanse dwellings and houses	2
To cleanse or provide rain water troughing	9
To prevent escape of sewer gas into houses	8
To open and repair slop drains	71
Dilapidated, defective, and choked water closets	64

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

House Inspections	349
Slaughterhouse Inspections	92
Cowshed and Dairy Inspections	74
Common Lodging-house Inspections	12
Houses Let in Lodgings	
Workshops and Workplaces	55
Bakehouses	12
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated (including Tuberculosis)	169
Complaints received	521

RESULTS OF ABOVE INSPECTIONS.

Nuisances detected	346
Nuisances abated	341
Informal Notices issued	345
Statutory Notices issued	15
Legal proceedings instituted in respect thereof	Nil
Number of articles of clothing disinfected at Steam Disinfector and Fumigating Room	1265
Number of patients removed to Hospital	162
New drains tested (by water)	48
Old drains tested (by smoke)	66

Faversham Port Sanitary Authority.

Milton Creek and the Western Swale are within the jurisdiction of the Port of Faversham for the purposes of sanitation and public health. The Port Sanitary Authority is the Town Council of Faversham.

For that portion of the Faversham Port comprised in Milton Creek, as defined by the Milton Creek Conservancy Act, 1899, the Medical Officer of North-East Kent United Districts has been appointed Medical Officer of Health.

I here append the Annual Report:—

TO THE FAVERSHAM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1921 of your Medical Officer for the Milton portion of the Port.

The type of vessel using the Creek and the nature of goods carried (chiefly bricks, wood pulp, London refuse, and manure), remain unchanged.

During the year I have kept the Creek under my personal supervision, and every barge using the Creek has been inspected during the year by your Sanitary Inspector.

The sanitary condition of the vessels remains satisfactory.

Only one foreign craft has arrived in the Creek during the year 1921—a Dutch vessel from Belgium, about 70 tons registered, carrying coal.

Sanitary defects discovered in barges are always attended to at once by owners without Statutory Notice being served.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—No case of an infectious kind has been notified during the year.

REGULATIONS AS TO FOOD.—Very little foodstuffs is brought into this portion of the Port, and during the year no article of food was condemned as unfit.

RATS.—The Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919 makes the Port Sanitary Authority the responsible body to enforce these powers in respect to vessels. In the event of

rats being discovered in a vessel notice is to be served upon the Master of the vessel, requiring him to take certain steps to prevent the escape of these vermin from the ship. On one occasion an expert from Maidstone was employed to fumigate one of the great breeding places. I was disappointed at the few which were driven out. I think their holes ran too far back for the fumes of the cyanide of potassium to reach them. All that bolted were killed. Very likely many died in their holes. I understand that very rarely a rat is seen in the barges which use Milton Creek, as owing to the construction of the barges rats cannot hide in them. Therefore any action for rodent destruction in the barge by fumigation would be useless. Attention shall be given to vessels from foreign ports, and protectors placed on the ropes holding the vessels to the wharves.

The collections of London refuse for the brickfields deposited near the wharves are breeding places, but now action in respect of these is being taken by the respective District Authorities.

As this is my last Report, I take this opportunity to thank your Port Authority for the honour they have given me in appointing me as their Medical Officer of Health.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. C. MENDES GIBSON.